HOUSE COMMITTEE ON ELECTIONS

Hearing Date: April 29, 2021 8:00 AM Printed on: April 30, 2021 2:40 PM

Cindi Castilla

COMMENTS FOR:

Texas Eagle Forum (President) and self (volunteer)

HB 160

Dallas, TX

Texas Eagle Forum is opposed to HB 160.

Adding college student ID's as a valid form of voting ID will cause illegal votes to be cast. We have no way of knowing if a student has declared residency in our state. Is their parent still deducting them from their taxes in another state? Are they still a legal dependent of a parent in another state? It would be very easy for a college student to vote in their home state and Texas by this ID method. Allowing it to be expired for up to 4 years makes the bill even worse.

My families experience has been that it is terribly difficult to get our children off the Texas Voter Registry after they have moved to another state for work. It is likely the same in other states. Attendance at college has never been considered taking up residency in a new state. These students are able to vote by mail in their home state. (I realize this isn't true

There is zero accountability on address. Citizens of Texas are supposed to change their registration when they move. College students move more often than others. Many don't stay all four years of college. Some transfer. No one takes their ID away from them when they move.

Having college students who are not invested in your community but attend a school in your local area will impact the outcome of local elections. They have no vested interest in the area as most know they will move on or go back home after college. In a smaller community that hosts a larger college or university, it would become possible that college students would be picking the local school districts board members. This would be a terrible injustice to the parents/taxpayers of the local school district. This is just one example of another harm this bill would create.

This bill is unfair to citizens of Texas. Going to college does not equal residency. Please do NOT move this bill out of committee.

Thank you,

Cindi Castilla Texas Eagle Forum

Carol Spencer Cates

self. Retired teacher.

Albany, TX

Dr. Rogers, please note that in a small city, like Abilene, it is conceivable that college students from out-of-county, even out-of-state, using college IDs to ID for voting could elect even our state representative. I ask that you vote this bill down.

Mark Dreyer

Self Surveyor

Wallis, TX

COMMENTS FOR: HB 160 Please vote no to this bill. There are enough illegal votes without more. Cheryl Roth Self Denton, TX I am against this bill. Texas ID (not college) must be used as proper identification for voting. Claud Block Self Port Neches, TX Vote NO on HB160 Deana Johnston self Dallas, TX This bill has a flaw. Accepting college photo ID's is problematic as many students may be from other states. Please kill this bill. Vera Kuhn Self and Retired Richmond, TX This is a bad bill. Students who are from out of state may elect our state and federal senators and representatives, local leaders, etc. Anna Bartosh San Angelo TEA Party San Angelo, TX I oppose this bill and urge you to oppose this bill. It would allow out of state students to vote in our elections. Frank Holman Self Austin, TX

A school ID does not prove anything other than the fact you may be a student. Disney World does not accept a Student ID as proof of residence to purchase an annual pass to its theme parks.

Texas should not accept a Student ID as a valid ID to vote.

Disney annual pass FAQs. https://disneyworld.disney.go.com/faq/tickets/proof-florida-address/

Charles Sizemore
Self
Plano, TX

Please vote against this bill. it is a terrible bill and should not be passed

Gail Abbott, Ms

Republican Women of Greater North Texas
Frisco, TX

A college ID should NOT be acceptable, out of state students could vote in Texas elections.

Jerrie Sutphin, retired
Self retired teacher housewife
WINNSBORO, TX

Only Texans need to vote in Texas

Victoria Little, Mrs.

COMMENTS FOR:

HB 160

Self

Dallas, TX

Dear House Committee,

I respectfully ask that you oppose HB160. College IDs should not be treated as valid IDs for voting purposes in Texas elections. This could potentially enable non-citizen students to vote in our elections and violate the civil rights of all American citizens. Additionally out of state students could greatly impact representation on school boards and of state representatives in smaller communities that host larger colleges. Please oppose this terrible bill.

Kindest regards, Victoria Little

Barbara Decker

Self

Port Lavaca, TX

As a Texas resident I strongly oppose HB160. This Bill would allow out of state students to vote in Texas elections which defeats election integrity in our state. Such students have no legal right to vote in Texas elections and should not be given that right. Most states have early voting periods, absentee ballots, or vote by mail which would allow all of the these students ample opportunity to vote in their home states if they so choose.

HB160 would also give students not of legal voting age the right to vote with no valid age or residential identification.

Sarah Wilpitz, Mrs.
self
Dallas, TX
My family and I are opposed to this bill.
Jan Gentry
self
Dallas, TX
Acceptable ID should be Texas Drivers License. Student ID is not acceptable. Kids come from out of state. We don't want out of state kids voting. Don't be stupid. Texas ID acceptable only.
Gail Kleinschmidt
Gail Kleinschmidt

The bill seeks to add a college photo ID as a valid ID for voting in Texas Elections. In smaller communities that host larger colleges, the local ISD Board and even their state representative could conceivably be elected by out-of-state students. This is a BAD bill and will have an effect to allow non-constituents to have a vote....ballot harvesting. Please vote NO to this bill.

Lesha Roberts

FORT WORTH, TX

COMMENTS FOR:

HB 160

self

Hockley, TX

Texans are fed up with voter fraud and we demand real change. We WILL NOT forget 2020. We WILL NOT move on. We DEMAND enforcing laws on the books and passing legislation to make elections safer and harder to cheat. WE MUST CONTINUE WITH VOTER ID.

We need much stronger penalties for voter fraud. Ballot Harvesting should be illegal and NO drop boxes! One Person One Vote. Our elected officials need to do their job and protect voter integrity.

Brenda McGahagin

self and fellow citizens

Austin, TX

Good Day. My name is Brenda McGahagin and I am writing to the Chair and Members of the House Elections Committee ensure that the following bill passes out of the Elections Committee: House Bills 160 which would add a student ID to the list of acceptable identification to vote in-person at an early voting or election day polling place. Student ID would have to be issued by a college or university in Texas that contains the student's photo, full legal name, and an expiration date no earlier than four years before the date of an election. Thank you.

Cissy Sanders

Self

COMMENTS FOR: HB 160
Austin, TX
I SUPPORT / IN FAVOR of HB 160.
Richard Caldwell, Mr.
n/a
Boerne, TX
I support this bill
Georgia Keysor, Ms.
Self - Retired
Austin, TX
Please support this bill. TEXAS DESERVES BETTER THAN JIM CROW
Courtney Schulze, Student
Jolt
New Braunfels, TX
Allowing students to be able to vote on who is controlling their education is extremely important in giving students a voice.
Stella Lundy
Registered Voter
Quitman, TX
This one is a NO. Out of State students should not be voting in Texas elections.
Beth Biesel, Elections Integrity Chair
Texas Eagle Forum
Dallas, TX
Texas Eagle Forum is against this bill. Student IDs are easy to forge; they have little to no security protocols built in. This bill targets a particular voter population that skews the vote results towards a predetermined outcome that disadvantages one party over another. We do not want college students, whose primary residence is not Texas, picking our school board members or any other elected officials.
Liudmila Kuptsova Homen, Mrs.
SELF
Corpus Christi, TX

COMMENTS FOR: HB 160 Absolutely NOT! If ID expired 4 years ago ANY attempt to verify 1) a person's identity and 2) actual residence is LAUGHABLE. 4 years???? Come on man!!! Student ID in particular does NOT indicate legal status - there is NO WAY to confirm whether said person is a citizen Vote NO Carrie Moore Self Corpus Christi, TX VOTE NO! Student IDs are not official documents and can be forged too easily. Who can verify every student ID. Students have official identification. WE NEED MORE INTEGRITY, NOT LESS!! Richard Smith Self Corpus christi, TX No. Why accept say a student ID for voting especially if it is expired or old,. No,No,No shawn flanagan self/retired corpus christi, TX Vote no, this bill is designed to enable fraud. Eric Holguin Self Corpus Christi, TX Please vote YES/IN SUPPORT of this bill. We should be ensuring ALL Texans are able to vote with official forms of ID including schools IDs. Larry Ringler Self Portland, TX

Vote NO! A student ID doesn't guarantee the person is a legal voter.

Paul Laudadio

Self

Corpus Christi, TX

NO! I do not support this legislation because student ID's are not sufficient to support citizenship or legal residency! This invites potential duplicate voting (fraud) and does not vet for a potentially expired ID.

Julie Kellogg

self

Corpus Christi, TX

Vote NO! Foreign students get student IDs, I really should not have to explain any this any further. Student IDs do not indicate citizenship, or legal residency. A student could vote in their home state, with their drivers license and then vote in TX too. Accepting a student ID that was as old and was expired more than 4 years before, that doesn't even make since. If a legal citizen and resident of Texas wants to vote, go get a drivers license or TX ID, register to vote and take the voting process seriously.

Tommie Lee

Self Electrician

Corpus Christi, TX

Vote NO! This could be easily compromised as for my personal experience is that i have a student ID from college 16years ago. no expiration date. therefore, this ID could very well easily duplicated and or not confirmed valid.

Mary Slaughter

Self

Corpus Christi, TX

Please vote No! A student ID does not indicate legal residency nor citizenship. Using a student ID would open the possibility of that person voting anywhere else. It seems ridiculous to accept any student identification that is expired by more than 4 years.

DONNA EYLES

Self

CORPUS CHRISTI, TX

Vote NO. Absolutely not! Students certainly should have some other type of ID. Expired IDs??? No!

Victoria Hanson

self - retired

Corpus Christi, TX

NO – Expired identification should not be an acceptable means of identification.

Tammy Montgomery

Self

Corpus Christi, TX

Please vote no! An ID from school doesn't prove citizenship. There are students that are here that are not citizens. They also likely are not from the city they are attending school in. They should be able to get an if they are in school.

Kimberly Bridges Young

Self, Retired

CORPUS CHRISTI, TX

Vote NO! Student IDs do not indicate citizenship, or legal residency. They also might have or intended to vote in their "legal" residence, which could be in another city, county, state or country. And why on Earth would you accept a student ID that was as old and was expired more than 4 years before? If a student hasn't gotten through school in 4 years and hasn't renewed his/her ID, there's a real problem, isn't there?

Robert Jacoby

Self Employed

Addison, TX

Dear Honorable Representatives,

HB 160 is a BAD idea that opens up a new vector for fraud. I seriously doubt all public university and community college IDs have the same security measures as the State issued IDs, drivers licenses or the protections built into a US Passport. Having been a college student and a college administrator, I have seen student IDs manipulated. Giving a 4 year window of acceptance from the student ID expiration offers an incredible window for fraud.

I can see fraudsters harvesting student IDs of former students and voting for them long after they have left campus.

Stick to the basics. Use What the election code already includes as acceptable IDs. Do NOT pass this bill to the House floor.

Bonnie Seelig

Self Retired

Spicewood, TX

Oppose - I object to adding the college ID as a valid identification for voting. I don't want public officials elected into positions for multiple years by transient out of state students.

Diana Richards

Self, Former Insurance agent (P&C, Life, Health and others)

Sherman, TX

I am a Native, Multi-Generational Texan, and I am testifying Against HB160. It is important to keep acceptable identification for voting and voter registration to official Texas State IDs, Texas State Driver's License, Military IDs in order to make sure the individual actually resides in the State of Texas. In my past experience, I know that families with college student children, do not just kick them off of their Auto Insurance when the child goes off to college (whether the student is attending college in State or out of State.) The child will be listed as "Away at School" and the parents will give the Insurance Carrier the "Garaging Address" of where the student is living and garaging the automobile they took with them. This tells the Insurance Carrier that the student's family address (which should be the one on the student's driver's license) is the official residence of the student-- NOT a dorm or other physical address where they are staying while in enrolled in higher education. Please also keep in mind that some higher

education students are here at our colleges/universities on visas are not citizens of the USA. For these reasons, I am against this bill that would allow students to use their school ID to vote in our State, Federal or local elections. Thank you for your time and consideration to vote NO on this bill.

Sharon Burnett

Self

Ingleside, TX

Hello!

Please vote NO! Student IDs are not a good form of ID especially if they are expired! Also, there is a question about legal residence!

Thank you!

Kelley Burnett

Frank Holman

Self

Austin, TX

Disney World does not accept a student ID as a valid to purchase an annual pass at its theme park. Texas should not consider a student ID as a legal ID to vote.

William Ely

NA

Cypress, TX

I do not support this bill unless the proposed change can confirm the ID was issued to a US citizen. Do those providing the proposed IDs have the information or questions being asked to document if the person is a US Citizen?

David King

self

Austin, TX

Honorable Members of the House Elections Committee, Please support HB 160! It will allow identification cards issued by higher education institutions in Texas to be used as acceptable forms of identification for voting in Texas. This bill will help ensure that all eligible voters have opportunities to vote! Thank you for considering my comments and for your service!

Marisol Byrd

self

Austin, TX

Oppose

Bill Sargent, Former Chief Deputy Clerk for Elections, Galveston County

Self

Galveston, TX

I oppose this measure.

The only ID's that are, and should be, acceptable are those issued by governmental agencies such as DPS which issues TDLs, Identification Cards, handgun licenses, and Texas Election IDs... or the Federal Government that issues passport, military IDs, Veterans Administration IDs, and certificates of naturalization.

Schools, even those that are public institutions don't go through the thorough vetting that DPS and the Federal Government does.

Additionally, there are foreign nationals who are students in our country. They can get student IDs and -- since nobody checks to see if a person is actually a U.S. citizen -- there is a distinct possibility that non-citizen students would be allowed to vote. Stranger things have happened!

I oppose HB 160.

Gwen Withrow

myself

Beaumont, TX

I am against this bill HB160. As an election worker there is no we can validate the many student ID's across the State. This Bill will cause increased voter fraud. Please do not pass this bill. Every vote should count. So please do not allow an increase in voter fraud which will dilute proper votes.

Alexandra Schilling

Fort Bend County Republican Party Precinct 1008

WALLIS, TX

Against HB 160 - I am concerned because the Department of Public Safety here in Texas doesn't consider a photo student identification card as a primary source of identification. In my opinion, if DPS cannot accept it as a primary, nor even a secondary form of identification when getting a driver's license/state issued identification. The words below are taken directly from the DPS website: "There are three categories of documents that must be presented to establish proof of identity. Every original applicant must present:? One piece of PRIMARY identification; or? One piece of SECONDARY identification plus two pieces of SUPPORTING identification; or? Two pieces of SECONDARY identification." Student identification cards are only considered a supporting identification.